

NEW FAMILY OF MAMMALIAN POTASSIUM CHANNELS, THEIR
CLONING AND THEIR USE, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SCREENING OF
DRUGS

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The present invention relates to the cloning of a member of a new potassium channel named TWIK-1. More specifically, it relates to an isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for a protein constituting a potassium channel exhibiting the properties and structure of the TWIK-1 type channel, as well as the protein coded by this nucleic acid molecule.

The invention also relates to the use of this nucleic acid molecule to transform cells, and the use of these cells expressing the potassium channels exhibiting the properties and structure of the TWIK-1 type channel for the screening of drugs.